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4/13/87

**MEMORANDUM** 

Subject: Additional Source Characterization of Ambient Asbestos

in the Town of Coalinga

To:

Amy Zimpfer

Chief, Federal Response Section

From:

Jenny Decker

Remedial Project Manager

Atlas and Coalinga Asbestos Mines

Two major point sources of asbestos have recently been identified in the town of Coalinga. Soil analysis at these sites could clearup major questions as to the contribution of the NPL sites to the ambient air problem in the town. I propose that the FIT contractors be retained to complete a limited sampling event (of approximately 6 to 12 soil samples only per site) to clarify the role these sites play in the release of asbestos into the air. I stress that I see this as a gross, "quick and dirty" sampling event, only to give us a rough idea of whether our suspicions are well founded.

The first site is a large gravel pit, 3/4 mile north of the residential area and schools in Coalinga. The pit is currently operating, excavating soil sedimentation that has been deposited in the area. Many large trucks role in and out of the pit every day, generating high amounts of dust. If this pit contains a high percentage of asbestos, as suspected, this could be the major contributor to the air problem in Coalinga. Note that the pit is nearly as large as the entire town (see attached map).

The second site is located two blocks from the fire station where the summer air sampling took place. It is an abandoned warehouse, full of soil. Our contractors, Woodward-Clyde, were told by residents that the warehouse was used as a transfer station for asbestos and for chromium wastes. The building looks abandoned and most of the windows have been broken, facilitating the release of the asbestos into the air on windy days (see attached pictures).

Both sites appear to be connected to the NPL sites as the soil sources. I have not documentation to support those claims, only hearsay from residents in Coalinga.

I expect the sampling could be complete in approximately one month.

O History

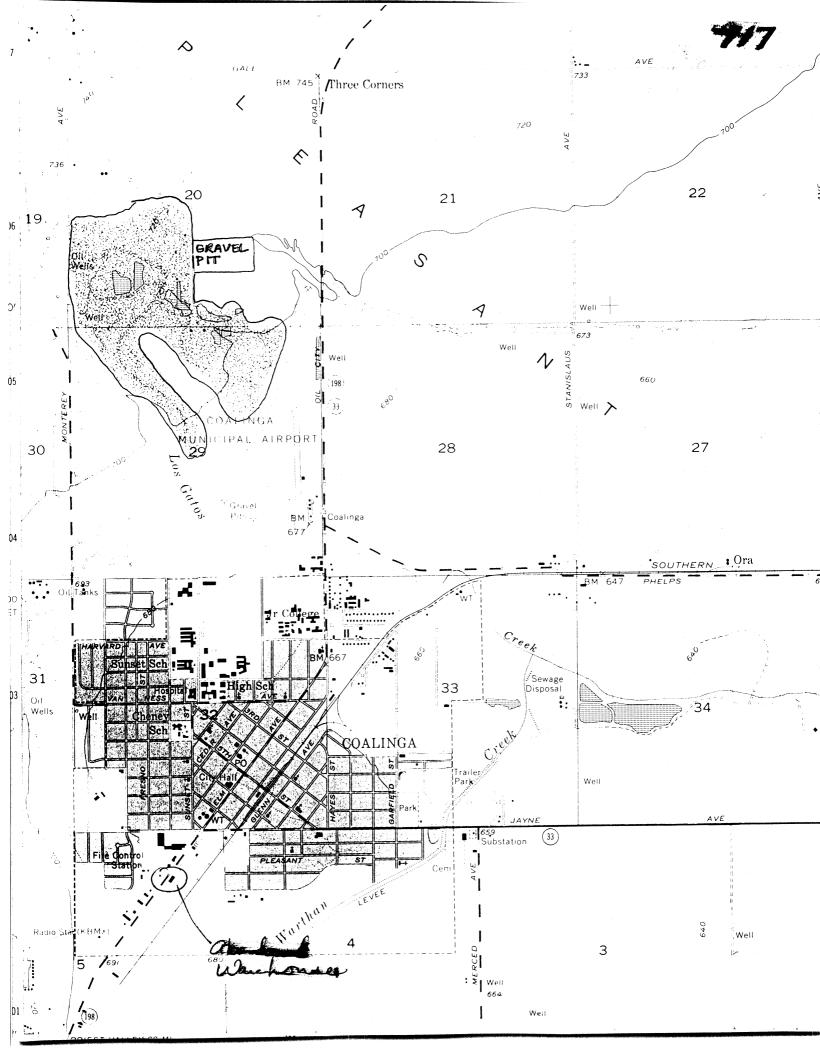
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- Water Pathway - Area wide too big to chew -modelling of areawide - Science Awisory Bd - - > Close Out

Air Pathway · modelling · Coalinga Backgod.

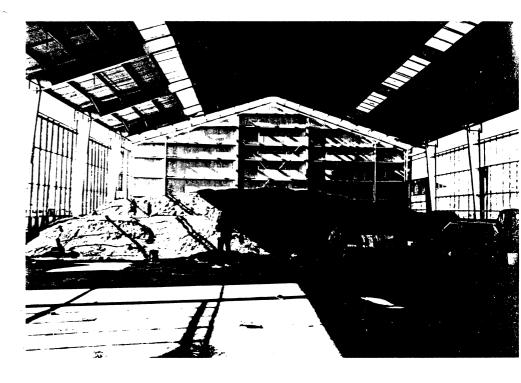
O Fundamental Reassessment

o Shift from water to air oroblem o People was sites to Problem where People live

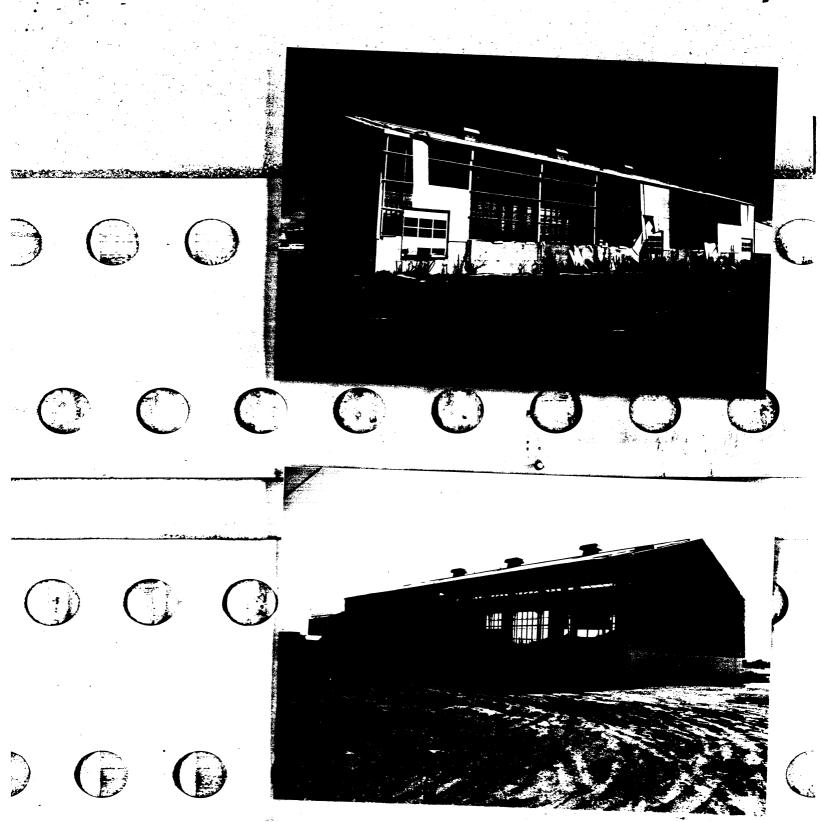


Possible Chromium waste pilet asbestos transfer Station

Motes:
Suspected of being on askestor and chromium transport center-notice the piles. The building has few mindows left so could be a major source of aboutes during mindy periods.









Solplan from town

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**REGION IX** 

215 Fremont Street San Francisco, Ca. 94105

## MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Soil Sample Plan Review for the Atlas and Coalinga

NPL Sites

TO:

Greg Baker

Chief, Field Inspections Section

FROM:

Amy Zimpfer

Chief, Federal Facilities Section

DATE:

June 5, 1987

Attached is a Sample Plan Review Request for the Atlas/ Coalinga Draft Soil Sample Plan from Ecology and Environment. Due to the importance of sampling immediately and the brevity of the plan, I request an expedited review of this document if at all possible.

I appreciate your review of this plan in advance. Should you have any questions, please call Jenny Decker (X8161), the Remedial Project Manager for the Atlas and Coalinga Sites.

Attachment